



## **Health Visitors – Help for Babies, Children and Families**

### **Who are Health Visitors?**

Health Visitors are friendly specialist nurses who help babies, young children and their families stay healthy and happy. They support families from before a baby is born until a child starts school.

They can help families with:

- Keeping babies and children healthy
- Feeding and caring for babies
- Child development and learning
- Healthy eating and exercise
- Getting ready for school
- Worries about a child's health or wellbeing

### **What is changing?**

The Health Visiting Service is planning to make some changes to how it works.

More qualified Health Visitors will be available to:

- Get to know families better and visit families in their homes
- Give more consistent support
- Spend more time helping families in the early years of a child's life

Some staff roles (staff nurses) will be removed, but families will still be able to get support from qualified Health Visitors.

### **What will stay the same?**

- ✓ Families will still receive all important health and development checks, 5 in total
- ✓ Health Visitors will continue to support babies, young children and their families.
- ✓ Children and families who need extra help will still be able to get it.
- ✓ Health Visitors will continue to work with other services to help keep children safe, healthy and happy.



## **Why are these changes being made?**

The changes aim to:

- Give families more support from Health Visitors
- Help children get the best start in life
- Make sure families know who their Health Visitor is
- Provide more consistent care during a child's early years

## **Have Your Say**

We would like to hear what you think about these changes.

**Survey:** [https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/t/HV\\_CONS](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/t/HV_CONS)

**Email:** [childrenandfamilies@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:childrenandfamilies@suffolk.gov.uk)

Your ideas and opinions can help improve services for babies, children and families in Suffolk.